



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

*Office
Visit
2/14/52*

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1952

FISHING LICENSE SALES SOAR TO NEW HIGHS

More fishing licenses were sold in the United States, and more gross income was received from their sale during the year ended June 30, 1951, than in any previous fiscal year, Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman was advised today by Albert M. Day, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Based on sales records supplied by the States for fiscal year 1951, the Service has completed compilations which show that a total of 16,026,699 fishing licenses was sold by the 48 States to produce a gross revenue of \$35,554,285. These figures break all previous records.

In fiscal year 1950, the licenses sold numbered 15,337,758, and the gross revenue amounted to \$34,018,029.

Nonresident fishermen purchased 2,155,421 licenses in fiscal year 1951, an increase of 126,330 over the 2,029,091 of the previous year. States which attracted the greatest number of out-of-State anglers were Wisconsin, with 282,702 nonresident license sales; Minnesota, with 280,711; Michigan, with 268,902; Tennessee, with 189,447; and Florida, with 106,691. California reported the sale of 11,052 nonresident licenses, a decrease of 694 from the previous year's 11,746.

In the number of licenses issued, Michigan again headed the list, with 1,089,864. California, with 981,326, yielded second place to Wisconsin with 1,029,355. Minnesota ranked fourth with 954,768; Ohio was fifth with 892,470; Illinois, with 761,860, was sixth; New York, with 723,225, was seventh; Missouri, with 642,394, was eighth; Tennessee, with 639,100, was ninth; and Pennsylvania, with 638,410, occupied tenth place.

For comparative purposes, the first 10 in the license sales line up are shown for 1950-51 and 1949-50.

	<u>1950-51</u>		<u>1949-50</u>
Michigan	1,089,864	Michigan	1,050,756
Wisconsin	1,029,355	California	995,830
California	981,326	Wisconsin	970,792
Minnesota	954,768	Minnesota	914,862
Ohio	892,470	Ohio	854,390
Illinois	761,860	Illinois	693,352
New York	723,225	New York	667,937
Missouri	642,394	Pennsylvania	641,552
Tennessee	639,100	Missouri	594,692
Pennsylvania	638,410	Indiana	579,288

The first 10 States in amount of revenue received are listed below:

<u>1950-51</u>		<u>1949-50</u>	
California	\$2,986,352	California	\$3,033,755
Michigan	2,077,084	Minnesota	2,198,092
New York	2,068,019	Michigan	2,008,307
Wisconsin	2,035,820	Washington	1,914,823
Minnesota	2,026,060	New York	1,787,061
Washington	1,908,183	Wisconsin	1,754,593
Missouri	1,406,742	Pennsylvania	1,343,290
Pennsylvania	1,309,579	Missouri	1,293,808
Oregon	1,204,513	Oregon	1,165,066
Tennessee	1,002,140	Ohio	962,570

In Alaska the sale of 37,799 fishing licenses brought \$109,063. Resident licenses numbered 27,066; nonresident, 10,733. One-half of the revenue from hunting and fishing license sales in Alaska is required by law to go into "miscellaneous receipts" of the United States Treasury, and the remainder goes into the Territorial school fund.

In the Territory of Hawaii, according to the Board of Commissioners of Agriculture and Forestry, only 392 fresh water game fishing licenses were purchased at a cost of \$963. Fishing licenses in Hawaii, however, are required for the taking of introduced fresh water game species only. As the bulk of their sport fishermen fish in salt water, the number of licenses sold gives a most incorrect measurement of the degree of sport fishing activity in the Territory.

In the appended alphabetical tabulation, all combination licenses were included because such licenses entitled the holder to hunt and fish, and in some cases to trap as well.

X X X

FISHING LICENSES SOLD IN THE UNITED STATES

July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951

STATE	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	TOTAL	ANGLERS' FEES*
ALABAMA	152,544	10,236	162,780	\$ 181,389
ARIZONA	65,030	16,998	82,028	267,830
ARKANSAS	223,218	76,961	300,179	545,350
CALIFORNIA	970,274	11,052	981,326	2,986,352
COLORADO	227,200	59,771	286,971	898,335
CONNECTICUT	79,939	3,809	83,748	356,633
DELAWARE	6,400	1,754	8,154	19,102
FLORIDA	180,113	106,691	286,804	691,625
GEORGIA	115,985	3,504	119,489	302,407
IDAHO	163,853	43,959	207,812	711,523
ILLINOIS	732,534	29,326	761,860	785,695
INDIANA	595,009	37,563	632,572	757,714
IOWA	440,667	10,312	450,979	673,127
KANSAS	238,780	6,269	245,049	373,849
KENTUCKY	293,653	62,950	356,603	587,434
LOUISIANA	72,044	11,024	83,068	111,708
MAINE	119,409	56,019	175,428	549,378
MARYLAND	70,286	12,588	82,874	133,618
MASSACHUSETTS	230,929	7,146	238,075	527,696
MICHIGAN	820,962	268,902	1,089,864	2,077,084
MINNESOTA	674,057	280,711	954,768	2,026,060
MISSISSIPPI	111,242	53,366	164,608	431,530
MISSOURI	593,142	49,252	642,394	1,406,742
MONTANA	160,622	28,115	188,737	582,101
NEBRASKA	199,823	8,408	208,231	439,297
NEVADA	20,818	19,583	40,401	145,936
NEW HAMPSHIRE	87,798	38,997	126,795	488,182
NEW JERSEY	130,416	10,485	140,901	443,673
NEW MEXICO	62,823	36,179	99,002	381,190
NEW YORK	691,082	32,143	723,225	2,068,019
NORTH CAROLINA	245,417	38,823	284,240	687,757
NORTH DAKOTA	63,780	510	64,290	33,420
OHIO	857,635	34,835	892,470	(12) 917,438
OKLAHOMA	351,234	40,822	392,056	(11) 976,293
OREGON	233,750	19,394	253,144	1,204,513
PENNSYLVANIA	618,621	19,789	638,410	1,309,579
RHODE ISLAND	22,359	382	22,741	42,330
SOUTH CAROLINA	144,306	6,219	150,525	195,994
SOUTH DAKOTA	110,745	18,597	129,342	181,000
TENNESSEE	449,653	189,447	639,100	(10) 1,002,140
TEXAS	331,417	5,736	337,153	559,584
UTAH	92,500	4,632	97,132	359,545
VERMONT	70,230	26,509	96,739	250,053
VIRGINIA	281,148	3,186	284,334	527,540
WASHINGTON	412,723	16,247	428,970	1,908,183
WEST VIRGINIA	202,101	4,792	206,893	637,562
WISCONSIN	746,653	282,702	1,029,355	2,035,820
WYOMING	106,354	48,726	155,080	774,955
TOTALS	13,871,278	2,155,421	16,026,699	\$35,554,285

*Represents gross costs to anglers including special permits, trout stamps, etc. Combination licenses reported at full cost to angler as was done for hunters in hunting license tabulation, thus accounting for some overlapping on fees paid by sportsmen for such licenses.